

Defense Contract Management Command



Basic Readiness Glossary

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BASIC READINESS GLOSSARY

- **What is Readiness?** The ability of US military forces to fight and meet the demands of the national military strategy. Readiness is the synthesis of two distinct but interrelated levels: a. unit readiness-- The ability to provide capabilities required by the combatant commanders to execute their assigned missions. This is derived from the ability of each unit to deliver the outputs for which it was designed. b. joint readiness-- The combatant commander's ability to integrate and synchronize ready combat and support forces to execute his or her assigned missions. The ability of forces, units, weapon systems or equipment to deliver the outputs for which they were designed. (J PUB 1-02)
Working Definition: Manpower, hardware, software and support on hand to complete a military mission

- **Why does it matter?** Readiness is a primary warfighter metric. Military mission success depends on having operational equipment, at the right location at the right time.
- **How is it measured?** Hardware readiness is measured as either mission capable (MC) or non-mission-capable (NMC). When a hardware system is operational, it is reported as mission capable. When a hardware system can not be used for its intended mission, it must be reported as non-mission capable due to either maintenance or supply. Non mission capable maintenance (NMCM) means that the hardware is down for maintenance; non mission capable supply (NMCS) means the hardware is down because it is missing a spare or repair part. The Services have established mission capable readiness goals for each critical weapon system. If a weapon system does not meet readiness goals; then it is intensively managed and corrective action briefed to the highest Service levels.

Primary readiness measures for the Services also include combat sortie rates and operational availability. Additionally, DLSC and military service logisticians track subordinate supply measures. These measures include supply availability, logistics response time, backorders (overall and high priority requisitions), and shipments vs. required delivery dates.

- **Who tracks it?** Readiness (mission capability, sortie rate and operational availability) is tracked by operational field units and rolled up at the military service level.
- **How can DLSC/Service item manager influence readiness?** DLSC and Military Service item managers make daily decisions to invest (or not invest) in specific spare and repair parts. Their decisions determine which parts are stocked or non-stocked (available from vendors for immediate shipments) and in what quantities. Item managers balance readiness and business goals in making investment decisions. Buying too many parts or the wrong parts can be very expensive. However, if parts are not on hand when a military customer needs them, a weapon system can go down. Then the weapon system must be reported as non-mission capable supply. DLA Item managers, as well as other functional specialists from the Lead Center, influence readiness by

assuring supply availability of vital consumable parts. The DLA Lead Center concept was established to shift focus to platform readiness support and requires all associates to incorporate this philosophy into their daily production tasks.

- **How can DCMC influence readiness?** DCMC-PA has developed a Program Integration for Readiness project to explore ways that we can efficiently and effectively support weapon system readiness. Since DCMC administers contracts in over 23,000 contractor facilities, we are in a unique position to coordinate weapon system information from across the industrial base. DCMC has established several projects (and are developing others) to link Program Integrators (PI) with contractors, Military Service item managers and/or DLSC weapon system support managers (WSSM) for spare & repair part readiness issues. The Service item manager and/or DLSC WSSM identifies a small number of “critical few” readiness driver parts for a specific weapon system to the DCMC PI. The PI consolidates production information from contractors across the industrial base, coordinates in-plant support to expedite high priority orders, and reports information to the service logistician and/or WSSM. DCMC can influence readiness by helping to improve delivery of “critical few” parts.
- **Combat Support Agency Review Team (CSART) and pertinent findings.** Title 10 USC 193 requires the Chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff (CJCS) to biennially assess combat support agencies (CSA) responsiveness and readiness to support operating forces in the event of war or threat to national security. DJS directed a CSART be initiated to review DLA in FY 1998. The 1998 Combat Support Agency Review Team (CSART) Biennial Assessment of DLA generally gave DLA a positive assessment. The CSART report cites the Program Integration for Readiness effort between DCMC Indianapolis and DSCC for HMMWV spare parts as a positive example of Agency support to weapon system readiness. The CSART also commends Defense Logistics Support Command (DLSC) for Weapon System Structure. An area of improvement recommends “Continuous emphasis on changing to weapon system management concepts to ensure adequate supplies of critical items are available to support Services.”

- **Define basic logistics and readiness terms** (official definition & working definition)
 - **Backorder:** The quantity of an item requisitioned by ordering activities that is not immediately available for issue but is recorded as a stock commitment for future issue. (Joint Publication 1-02)
 Requisitions are placed on backorder for various reasons; the following are examples:
 - NSN requested has no stock available.
 - NSN is forced on backorder by IM.
 - Management Policy/Direct Vendor Delivery Table decision.
 - NSN is managed as a non-stock item.
 - System level, e.g., Uniform Materiel Movement Issue Priority System (UMMIPS) control level in the National Inventory Record (NIR).
 - Freeze code placed against the NSN to prevent issue.*Working Definition: An order from a customer that we are unable to fill completely from stock or from existing direct vendor delivery.*
 - **Bare Firewalls:**
Working Definition: Airplane with the engine removed for maintenance.
 - **Consumable Item:** An item of supply (except explosive ordnance, major end items of equipment, and reparable) that is normally expended or used up beyond recovery in the use for which it is designed or intended. (DODD 4140.1-M)
Working Definition: End item or component that can not be repaired. When broken or used up, it must be discarded. DLSC now manages most DoD consumable items.
 - **Consumable Item Transfer (CIT):** The transfer of integrated material management responsibility from one manager to another. (DoDD 4140.26-M)
Working Definition: A program used to transfer to DLA the management of approximately one million consumable items. During the 1980s and 1990s, the military services were directed to transfer most of their consumable items to DLSC for management.
 - **Critical Few Readiness Drivers:**
Working Definition: A small number of spare and repair parts that, if broken or missing, can cause a weapon system to fail. DLSC and the Military Service project a number of critical parts that could result in non-mission capable supply backorders if problems arise.

- **Depot:**
Working Definition: A government or commercial facility with a number of warehouses to receive, store and issue material. The depot may also house industrial facilities (space and equipment) for repair and overhaul of material.
 - **Defense Distribution Depot:** An activity responsible for the receipt, classification, storage, accounting, issue, maintenance, manufacturing, assembly, research, salvage or disposal of an item. (J-PUB 1-02)
Working Definition: A facility for storing inventory. This can include consumables, reparable, and even weapon systems. DLSC distribution depots receive, store and issue wholesale material managed by DLSC and the Military Services
 - **Maintenance Depot:** The facility used by the Military Service or contractor to perform depot maintenance.
Working Definition: A facility for overhauling and repairing weapon systems and their reparable parts.
 - **Depot Maintenance:** That maintenance performed on material requiring major overhaul or a complete rebuild of parts, assemblies, sub-assemblies, and end items, including the manufacture of parts, modifications, testing and reclamation as required. Depot maintenance serves the lower categories of maintenance by providing technical assistance and performing that maintenance beyond their responsibility. Depot maintenance provides stocks of serviceable equipment by using more extensive facilities than are available in lower level maintenance activities. (J-PUB 1-02)
Working Definition: Repair and overhaul performed at the depot level. (Some less-complex maintenance is authorized at the organizational level (field user) or at intermediate-level repair facilities.)
 - **Direct Vendor Delivery:** Centrally purchased for shipment directly to the user or another Military Service; not stocked by purchasing activity.
Working Definition: Vendor ships direct to the customer (item not placed in depot storage)
 - **Essential Item:** A support item or repair part whose absence renders the supported system or end item inoperable. (DODD 4140.1-M)
Working Definition: spare or repair part that must function properly in order for the weapon system to fully operate

- **Full Mission Capable:** Material condition of an aircraft, (*weapon system*), or training device indicating that it can perform all of its missions. Also called FMC. (J-PUB 1-02)
Working Definition: The percentage of a population of a weapon system that is completely ready for its intended use

- **Non-Mission Capable Supply (NMCS):** A materiel condition indicating that systems and equipment are not capable of performing any of their assigned missions because of a maintenance work stoppage due to supply availability (DODD 4140.1-M)
Working Definition: A weapon system that is not ready due to part's shortage

- **Non-Mission Capable Supply Backorder:**
Working Definition: A customer requisition, unfilled by the source (e.g. DLA), and which is preventing the repair of a weapon system or an essential item of a critical sub-assembly

- **Non-Mission Capable Maintenance (NMCM)**
Working Definition: A weapon system that is not ready due to lack of maintenance resources

- **Item Manager:** An individual located at an inventory control point (ICP) responsible for managing a wide variety of items in support of the military services, federal and civilian agencies and friendly foreign governments. (DODD 4140-1.M)
Working Definition: Individual responsible for filling requisitions for DoD material. IM at DLA ICP manages consumable parts and an IM at the Service level manages major end-items and reparable

- **Inventory:** Material, titled to the Government, held for sale or issue, held for repair, or held pending transfer or disposal. (DODD 4140-1.M)
Working Definition: stocks of parts or other materiel

- **Inventory Control:** That phase of military logistics which includes managing, cataloging, requirements determinations, procurement, distribution, overhaul, and disposal of materiel. Synonymous with materiel control, materiel management, inventory management, and supply management. (J- PUB 1-02)
Working Definition: Broad range of duties required to assure that material is available for DoD customers.

- **Military Standard Requisitioning & Issue Procedures (MILSTRIP) Format for Requisitions :** The driving force behind the DLA Standard Automated Materiel Management System (SAMMS) is the customers' need for materiel. The customer relays this need to DLA in the form of a MILSTRIP requisition. Once the requisition is received into the Defense Automated Address System (DAAS) a validation of data occurs. If the validation is successful the requisition flows to the DLA ICP SAMMS, which validates the data and, if an error is detected will either attempt to correct, reject, or generate a violation.

- **Priority Designator:** Priority indicates the urgency of need for the materiel. Priorities are used by SAMMS to sequence and process requisitions, as well as release backorders. The 15 Priority Designators are DoD authorized two-position codes that indicate the urgency of need for the materiel by the requisitioner.
 The priority Designator codes are derived from a combination of the Force/Activity Designator (FAD) of the customer and the Urgency of Need Designators (UND) for the requisitioned item. Both of their designators fall under DLASR 4410.1, the Uniform Materiel Movement Issue Priority System (UMMIPS). The UMMIPS establishes maximum uniform time standards within DLA for requisition processing and delivery of materiel to the customer.
 Priorities fall into three Issue Priority Groups (IPGs):
 - IPG I = PRI 01-03
 - IPG II = PRI 04-08
 - IPG III = PRI 09-15*IPG I working definition: IPG I requisitions indicate a very high level of urgency for the parts. IPG I are the highest priority requisitions – material must be delivered to the customer within 5 days CONUS and 9-13 days OCONUS. Time includes requisition submission time and receipt take-up time.*

- **Lead Center:** The ICP serving as the DLA DLSC Single Point of Contact at the Program Level for assigned weapon and troop support systems. The Lead Centers' Weapon System Support Manager (WSSM) works with Service PMs to resolve fleet-wide readiness supply support issues for DLA supported weapon systems. The WSSM acts as the primary catalyst for interagency support. The Lead Center has the authorization to:
 - Act for the Agency on designated weapon or troop support systems.
 - Delegate/direct actions as appropriate.
 - Direct DLA-wide weapon or troop support system program reviews.
 - Recommend specific investment allocations to other ICPs.
 - Assist in spearheading the resolution of customer policy/procedural concerns*Working Definition: A concept under which one DLA Inventory Control Point (ICP) serves as the focal point for issues related to consumable NSN support of a specific weapon system, regardless of which ICP manages the parts. DSCC has responsibility for land and maritime systems, DSCP for troop support systems; and DSCR for aviation systems.*

- **Logistics:** The science of planning and carrying out the movement and maintenance of forces. In its most comprehensive sense, those aspects of military operations which deal with: a. design and development, acquisition, storage, movement, distribution, maintenance, evacuation, and disposition of materiel; b. movement, evacuation, and hospitalization of personnel; c. acquisition or construction, maintenance, operation, and disposition of facilities; and d. acquisition or furnishing of services.
Working Definition: The art and science of obtaining and distributing material and product and (for the military) the movement of personnel.
- **Logistics Response Time (LRT):** LRT is a DoD-wide tool that is used to measure the overall time it takes to satisfy the requirement from the date of the requirement until the customer receives the materiel.
Working Definition: The amount of time it takes from initiation of the customer requisition until delivery of the item into the customers' hands.
- **Mission Stock:** Supply system inventory owned by the DoD held for sale or issue in wholesale and retail inventory accounts. All items are maintained to identify the quantity of an item on hand, unit price, location, physical condition, receipt, issue, authorized stock number, item description, and other information to account for materiel used to support military activities.
Working Definition: Items held in central inventory to fill demands.
- **Nonstocked Item:** An item for which there is no established reorder point. Usage data or inventory may be present; but stock replenishment would not be initiated.
Working definition: Stock is not maintained in inventory. Demands are filled by direct vendor delivery or local procurement.
- **Organic Support:** The capability of a military service or Defense Agency to sustain logistics operations through government organizational structures. (DODD 4140-1.M)
Working Definition: activities performed by government employees (civilian & military)
- **Organic Maintenance:**
Working Definition: repair and overhaul performed at a DoD facility by government employees rather than by a private contractor
- **Prime Vendor:** An EDI trading partnership with a commercial distributor for market ready or commercial products. Long term contracts set forth price, product, and delivery agreements with suppliers of a variety of goods and products to regionally grouped customers.
Working Definition: A concept under which customer support is provided directly by a vendor using existing commercial distribution networks. DoD stocks are not involved, and customer orders pass directly to the vendor

- **Programmed Depot Maintenance**
Working Definition: Depot-level maintenance, such as overhauls or modifications, that are planned, scheduled (and funded) for accomplishment at an organic or commercial facility. The Military Services program depot maintenance at least annually.
- **Reparable Item:** An item of supply subject to economical repair and for which the repair (at either depot or field level) is considered in satisfying computed requirements at any inventory level. (DODD 4140.1-M)
Working Definition: Component that can be repaired. Military Services manage most DoD reparable items.
- **Retail stock:** Stock held in custody or on the records of a supply organization below the wholesale level. (DODD 4140.1-M)
Working Definition: stock held by field level military personnel
- **SMCC 1 NSNs:** Select Management Category Code
Working Definition: Parts that are the most active business drivers as based on annual demand frequency (fast-moving items, lowest cost vice slower moving, expensive items), annual sales, and weapon system application.
- **SORTS system:** Status of Resources and Training System
Working Definition: System for tracking and reporting mission capability rates on specified weapon systems from the field level to OSD. Army SORTS data is published monthly.
- **Supply Availability:**
Working Definition: The percentage of requisitions filled immediately from stock on hand or by existing DVD contract
- **Supply Chain**
Working Definition: All activities associated with the flow and transformation of goods from the raw materials stage (extraction), through to the end user, as well as associated information flows. Material and information flow up and down the supply chain.
- **Supply Chain Management**
Working Definition: Integration of business processes from the end user through original suppliers that provides products, services, and information that add value for customers.

- **Supply Status Codes:** There are several supply methods used by the DLA / Service ICPs to indicate the normal means of supply/stockage/nonstockage status of each assigned NSN. Of the 11 different codes the primary codes listed below denote whether an item is stocked or on a direct vendor delivery arrangement (additional codes can be found in DLAM 4140.2, Appendix A-50):

CODE	TERM	EXPLANATION
1	Stocked	Centrally purchased, stocked, and distributed.
2	Nonstocked/ Local Purchase	Main means of supply is local purchase
3	Nonstocked Centrally Procured	Centrally purchased for shipment directly to user or another Military Service; not stocked by purchasing activity. Often referred to as Direct Vendor Delivery (DVD).

- **Tier 1 NSNs:**

Working Definition: Parts that are the most critical readiness drivers as determined by the Military Services. Tier I NSNs have essentiality codes of 1 (mission critical), 5 (safety critical) or 6 (environmental or legal requirement) and are used on Level A weapon systems. These parts are likely stocked to a higher level of support.

- **Virtual Prime Vendor (VPV):** An EC/EDI trading relationship providing an integrated logistics support for one or more commodity/product lines. VPV may also provide additional support services such as:
 - Forecasting requirements; inventory control, storage and distribution;
 - Engineering support, technical services; and
 - Other functions required to satisfy customers' needs.

The VPV may be given access to any commercial or DLA source of supply, including contracts and depot stocks.

Working Definition: A VPV relationship involves the development of a contractual relationship with a third party vendor who functions as both the supply and distribution manager on behalf of DLA. The contractor acts as the single source of supply, arranges for the receipt, storage, packaging and transportation of all items to support a programmed depot maintenance line or a weapon systems platform. The third party arrangement requires an effective interface between the DoD legacy information systems and the contractor's information systems in order to provide an acceptable method of data exchange, analysis and requirements forecasting.

- **Weapon System Availability:** A weapon system is available if it is capable of performing its intended mission. (DODD 4140.1-M)
Working Definition: The percentage of a population of a weapon system that is ready to perform its intended mission
- **Weapon System Designator Code (WSDC):** The WSDC is any two position, alphanumeric combination of the Weapon System Designator (WSD) and a one position Service Code (SVC) of A, F, M or N. Listings of the current WSDCs are available from the Weapon System Support Program (WSSP) which is updated monthly. Weapon Systems are nominated by the Military Services and submitted to HQ DLA. Upon approval, DLA assigns WSDCs for inclusion into the WSSP.
Working Definition: three digit code assigned by DLSC that identifies the weapon system in which a part is used. First 2 digits is a DoD standard code that uniquely identifies each weapon system.
3rd digit in the WSDC (Service code) means the following:
A = Army, F = Air Force, M = Marines and N = Navy
- **Weapon System Essentiality Codes (WSEC):** The WSEC is a one position numeric character representing or indicating the degree to which a failure of the item or part will affect the ability of the end item (Weapon System) to perform its intended operation. The WSECs are assigned through the Provisioning process, upon receipt of a Military Service's determination of an individual items' essentiality to a particular end item/system's overall operability.
Working Definition: the measure of military worth of an item of supply in terms of how its failure, if a replacement is not readily available, would effect its intended function/mission

The WSECs are listed and defined as follows:

CODE	DEFINITION
1	Failure of this part will render the End Item inoperable.
3	Failure of this part will not render the end item inoperable.
5	Item does not qualify for assignment of code 1, but is needed for personal safety.
6	Item does not qualify for assignment of code 1, but is needed For legal, climatic or other requirements peculiar to the planned operational environment of the end item.
7	Item does not qualify for assignment of code 1, but is needed to prevent impairment of or the temporary reduction of operational effectiveness of the end item.
Blank	Same as code 3 or the appropriate service has not assigned any Particular essentiality code to this End Item.

- **Weapon System Group Codes (WSGC):** The WSGC is a one position alpha code determined by the Military Services. The WSGC expresses the criticality of a specific Weapon System to that particular Service, as determined from among, and in comparison to, all other Weapon Systems for the Service. The WSGC is a vital component in determining the Weapon System Indicator Codes (WSICs) of the various NSN WSIC of Record, as well as the Individual NSN application records. The WSGCs are listed and defined as follows:

CODE	DEFINITION
Level A	Most Critical
Level B	Critical
Level C	Least Critical

Level A system working definition: Military service designates a limited number of weapon system as “Most Critical” to their mission

Level B system working definition: Military service designates certain weapon systems as “Critical” to their mission

Level C system working definition: Military service designates weapon systems or end items as “Least Critical” to their mission

- **Weapon System Support Manager (WSSM):** WSSM is the designation given to the DLA DLSC associate chartered with lead responsibilities for support of specific weapon and troop support systems under the Lead Center concept.
Working Definition: Under the lead center concept, the WSSM is the DLSC individual responsible for acting as the liaison between DLA and the customer for a specific Level A weapon system. Chairs a weapon system support team comprised of functional experts across DLSC to manage logistical support for the weapon system and interface with military service programs managers. The WSSM may also contact DCMC Program Integrators for assistance.
- **Wholesale stock:** Stock, regardless of funding sources, over which the Integrated Materiel Manager has asset knowledge and exercises unrestricted asset control to meet worldwide inventory management responsibilities. (DODD 4140.1-M)
Working Definition: Stock that is managed centrally and has not yet been shipped to the user.